

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604

DATE:

SEP 1 6 2016

SUBJECT:

CLEAN AIR ACT INSPECTION

REPORT

Gerdau Ameristeel US Inc - St Paul Mill, St Paul, Minnesota

FROM:

Cindy Schafer, Environmental Engineer

AECAB (MN/OH)

THRU:

Brian Dickens, Section Chief C You box & D

AECAB (MN/OH)

TO:

File

BASIC INFORMATION

Facility Name: Gerdau Ameristeel US Inc – St Paul Mill

Facility Location: 1678 Red Rock Road, St Paul, Minnesota 55119

Date of Inspection: August 30, 2016 and September 1, 2016

Lead Inspector: Cindy Schafer, Environmental Engineer

Purpose of Inspection: Conducted off-site method 9 readings for EU003 Auto Shredder

Facility Type: Steel mini-mill

Regulations Central to Inspection: SIP for PM₁₀ NAAQS; 40 C.F.R. Parts 50 and 51; 40

C.F.R. Part 52, Subpart Y; and Minn. R. 7011.0715, subp. 1(B)

Arrival Time: 9:45am on August 30, 2016

9:40 am on September 1, 2016

Departure Time: 11:00am on August 30, 2016

11:00am on September 1, 2016

Inspection Type:

□ Unannounced Inspection

☐ Announced Inspection

Process Description:

Gerdau Ameristeel US Inc – St Paul Mill (Gerdau) operates a steel mini-mill in St. Paul, Minnesota. The mill receives recycled automobile bodies, tin cans from refuse-derived fuel recycling operations, recycled white goods, and other grades of scrap steel by truck and rail. The automobile bodies, tin cans, and white goods are shredded in an auto shredder. A wet scrubber and cyclone control particulate matter (PM) and PM less than 10 microns (PM₁₀) emissions from the auto shredder.

TOUR INFORMATION

EPA toured the facility: No

Observations:

On August 30, 2016 at 10:27am the EPA inspector observed a plume of smoke originating from the main building at the Gerdau facility while conducting EPA Reference Method 9 opacity readings (Method 9, see 40 CFR Part 60, Appendix A) at the auto shredder stack. The plume interfered with the Method 9 readings; those readings were not included in the analysis of the average 6-minute opacity measured at the auto shredder stack.

On September 1, 2016 at 9:40am as the EPA inspector viewed the Gerdau facility from the intersection of Point Douglas Road and Stinchfield Street in St. Paul, Minnesota, it appeared that there was a fire at the auto shredder and brown smoke was exiting the auto shredder stack. By 9:45am it appeared that operations had stopped at the auto shredder. At 9:47am operations at the auto shredder resumed; the exhaust from the stack included a puff of steam and then became white smoke.

On September 1, 2016 at 10:48am the EPA inspector observed a plume of smoke originating south of the auto shredder. The smoke appeared to originate from a crane operating nearby. The smoke did not interfere with the Method 9 opacity readings.

On September 1, 2016 at 10:53am the EPA inspector observed a plume of very dense smoke originating between the auto shredder and the EPA inspector while conducting Method 9 opacity readings at the auto shredder stack. The smoke lingered for more than one minute and interfered with the Method 9 readings; those readings were not included in the analysis of the average 6-minute opacity measured at the auto shredder stack. At the time the plume was observed the EPA inspector was unable to ascertain the source of the smoke. Upon conclusion of the Method 9 readings, the EPA inspector investigated possible sources of the smoke. The likely source of the smoke was from a locomotive engine passing by the facility.

Field Measurements: were taken during this inspection.

Analysis of the Method 9 opacity readings taken on August 30, 2016 shows that there were seven 6-minute periods that exceeded the 20% opacity limit for the auto shredder during the timeframe from 9:57am to 10:57am. The highest 6-minute average opacity was 36.5%.

Analysis of the Method 9 opacity readings taken on September 1, 2016 shows that there were six 6-minute periods that exceeded the 20% opacity limit for the auto shredder during the timeframe from 10:05am to 10:58am. The highest 6-minute average opacity was 43.5%.

Concerns: This facility is located in an area that was previously designated as non-attainment under the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for PM₁₀. On September 24, 2002, the area was redesignated as attainment for the PM₁₀ NAAQS. Compliance with emission limits relating to particulate matter emissions is important for the area to remain in attainment of the PM₁₀ NAAQS.

SIGNATURES

Lead Inspector: Cuthur Schiffer Date: 9/9/2016

Section Chief: Charles Hall for Dickens Date: 19 September 2016

Facility Name: Gerdau Ameristeel US Inc - St Paul Mill

Facility Location: 1678 Red Rock Road, St. Paul, Minnesota 55119

Date of Inspection: August 30, 2016 and September 1, 2016

APPENDICES

• Appendix A: Method 9 Observation Forms for August 30, 2016

• Appendix B: Method 9 Observation Forms for September 1, 2016

• Appendix C: Photo Log

Facility Name: Gerdau Ameristeel US Inc - St Paul Mill

Facility Location: 1678 Red Rock Road, St. Paul, Minnesota 55119

Date of Inspection: August 30, 2016 and September 1, 2016

APPENDIX A: METHOD 9 OBSERVATION FORMS FOR AUGUST 30, 2016

EPA Reference Method 9 opacity observations of the auto shredder made from the intersection of Baily Road and the northbound entrance ramp for Highway 61. From this vantage point, the observer and the top of the auto shredder stack were at approximately the same elevation.

EPA

VISIBLE EMISSION OBSERVATION FORM 1

2038

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Method 9 203A

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Facility Name: Gerdau Ameristeel US Inc - St Paul Mill

Facility Location: 1678 Red Rock Road, St. Paul, Minnesota 55119

Date of Inspection: August 30, 2016 and September 1, 2016

APPENDIX B: METHOD 9 OBSERVATION FORMS FOR SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

EPA Reference Method 9 opacity observations of the auto shredder made from the intersection of Baily Road and the northbound exit ramp for Highway 61. From this vantage point, the observer and the top of the auto shredder stack were at approximately the same elevation.

VISIBLE EMISSION OBSERVATION FORM 1

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Facility Name: Gerdau Ameristeel US Inc – St Paul Mill

Facility Location: 1678 Red Rock Road, St. Paul, Minnesota 55119

Date of Inspection: August 30, 2016 and September 1, 2016

APPENDIX C: PHOTO LOG

See attached CD

• IMG 0316.JPG

Photo taken on August 30, 2016 from the intersection of Bailey Road and the northbound entrance ramp to Highway 61

• IMG 0317.JPG

Photo taken on August 30, 2016 from the intersection of Bailey Road and the northbound entrance ramp to Highway 61

IMG 0318.JPG

Photo taken on September 1, 2016 from the intersection of Point Douglas Road and Stinchfield Street

• IMG 0319.JPG

Photo taken on September 1, 2016 from the intersection of Bailey Road and the northbound exit ramp from Highway 61

IMG 0320.JPG

Photo taken on September 1, 2016 from the intersection of Bailey Road and the northbound exit ramp from Highway 61